

01485

1992/01/02

ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ARA/NEA REARCS

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ACTION: PK (01)

021802 S005211

ISLAMA 88822 020745Z 021802 S005211

INFO: NEA (U) RA (U) MIL (U) Sc (U) 1n (U)
----- 07/12/92 A3 HS (TOTAL COPIES: 088)

ACTION NEA-88

END COMMENT.

PLATT

INFO LOG-88 ACDA-13 AMAD-81 CEA-81 CEQ-81 CIAE-88 COME-88
C-81 DOOE-88 DOE-88 DPR-81 EAP-88 EB-88 EUR-88
E-81 H-81 IRRE-88 IRR-81 IO-19 L-88 ADS-88
MRC-82 NSAE-88 NSCE-88 OES-89 OIC-82 PA-81 PM-88
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P 020743Z JAN 92

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2813

INFO AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY BEIJING

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USIA WASHDC 4854

CONFIDENTIAL ISLAMABAD 88822

LONDON FOR POL JOHNSON

USIA FOR NEA RUGH

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: MNNUC, PREL, KNHP, CH, PK

SUBJECT: GOP SIGNS AGREEMENT TO BUY PRC NUCLEAR PLANT

REF: 91 ISLAMABAD 19576

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS FPC/CDR

7/8/93

Data: 7/8/93

() RELEASE () DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY
() DENY No PART
() DELETE Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions B1
PA Exemptions

MR. Class Only:
CG C-4/34

To authority to
() CLASSIFY as () S or () C OADR
() DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C OADR

1. (U) ALL THE MAJOR ENGLISH AND URDU DAILIES GAVE FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE ON JANUARY 1 TO THE GOP ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT HAD SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH CHINA TO PURCHASE A 388-MEGAWATT NUCLEAR POWER PLANT (REFTEL). ACCORDING TO THE PRESS REPORTS, PAK ATOMIC ENERGY CHAIRMAN ISHFAQ AHMAD SIGNED THE AGREEMENT IN BEIJING ON DEC 31. PRIME MINISTER NAWAZ SHARIF PUBLICLY WELCOMED THE ANNOUNCEMENT, NOTING THAT THE PLANT WILL BE PLACED UNDER JAEA SAFEGUARDS. HE WENT ON TO PRAISE THE AGREEMENT AS UNDERLINING "THE STRONG TIES AND CLOSE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND CHINA."

2. (U) SEVERAL OF THE NEWS STORIES INCLUDED COMMENT THAT THE CHINESE HAD AGREED TO SELL THE POWER PLANT DESPITE "PRESSURE" FROM THE U.S. NOT TO DO SO. SEVERAL ALSO STATED THAT THE NUCLEAR PLANT DEAL WITH CHINA HAS PROVEN THAT THE PAK-CHINESE RELATIONSHIP IS NOT IN DECLINE AS SOME OBSERVERS HAD SPECULATED FOLLOWING PREMIER LI PENG'S RECENT VISIT TO NEW DELHI.

3. (C) COMMENT: THE JANUARY 1 PRESS REPORTS CONFIRMED THE STORY THAT HAD BEEN RUN BY THE FRONTIER POST ON DEC 28 (REFTEL). WHILE THE PRESS NOTED THAT THE CHINESE HAD AGREED TO PROVIDE THE PAKS WITH AN UNSPECIFIED AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE TO FINANCE THE REPORTED USD 588 MILLION FOREIGN EXCHANGE COMPONENT OF THE SALE, IT REMAINS UNCLEAR WHAT IMPACT THE

SIX-YEAR-LONG CONSTRUCTION OF THE PLANT WILL HAVE.

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